WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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expansion of the tesserae.

1	1.	A method for producing a mosaic with a generally planar surface
2	comprising the steps of:	
3		providing a base substrate having a first side and a second side,
4	wherein the	base substrate has a height;
5		providing at least one additional substrate having a first side and a
6	second side	, wherein the at least one additional substrate has a height, and wherein
7	the at least one additional substrate is in the shape of a portion of the mosaic that	
8	will contain a more detailed portion of the mosaic;	
9		affixing the second side of the at least one additional substrate to the
0	first side of the base substrate in an area of the mosaic that will contain a more	
1	detailed portion of the mosaic;	
.2		affixing relatively thicker pieces of tesserae to the first side of the
3	base substrate; and	
4		affixing relatively thinner pieces of tesserae to the first side of the at
5	least one additional substrate.	
1	2.	The method of claim 1, wherein each of the relatively thinner pieces
2	of tesserae have a height of approximately 1/8 inch.	
1	3.	The method of claim 1, wherein each of the relatively thicker pieces
2	of tesserae have a height of approximately 3/8 inch.	
1	4.	The method of claim 1, wherein each of the relatively thinner pieces
2	of tesserae l	nave a height of approximately 3/8 inch, and wherein each of the
3	relatively th	icker pieces of tesserae have a height of approximately 3/4 inch.
1	5.	The method of claim 1, wherein the tesserae comprises various size
2	pieces of terra cotta, glass, marble, or stone.	
1	6.	The method of claim 1, wherein the base substrate comprises a
2	material with a coefficient of expansion substantially similar to the coefficient of	
3	expansion of the tesserae.	
1	7.	The method of claim 1, wherein the additional substrate comprises a

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the tesserae is affixed to the base substrate and the additional substrate via an adhesive.

material with a coefficient of expansion substantially similar to the coefficient of

- 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the tesserae is affixed to the base substrate and the additional substrate via a mortar.
- 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the additional substrate is affixed to the base substrate via an adhesive.
- 11. A method for producing a mosaic with a generally planar surface comprising the steps of:
- providing a base substrate having a first side and a second side,
- 4 wherein the base substrate has at least one elevated portion, wherein a top surface of
- 5 the elevated portion has a generally planar surface, and wherein the at least one
- 6 elevated portion is in the shape of a portion of the mosaic that will contain a more
- 7 detailed portion of the mosaic; and
- affixing relatively thicker pieces of tesserae to the first side of the
- 9 base substrate; and

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- affixing relatively thinner pieces of tesserae to the top surface of the at least one elevated portion of the base substrate.
- 1 12. The method of claim 11, wherein each of the relatively thinner pieces 2 of tesserae have a height of approximately 1/8 inch.
- 1 13. The method of claim 11, wherein each of the relatively thicker pieces 2 of tesserae have a height of approximately 3/8 inch.
 - 14. The method of claim 11, wherein each of the relatively thinner pieces of tesserae have a height of approximately 3/8 inch, and wherein each of the relatively thicker pieces of tesserae have a height of approximately 3/4 inch.
- 1 15. The method of claim 11, wherein the tesserae comprises various size 2 pieces of terra cotta, glass, marble, or stone.
 - 16. The method of claim 11, wherein the base substrate comprises a material with a coefficient of expansion substantially similar to the coefficient of expansion of the tesserae.